

9-1971

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University of Maine Portland-Gorham

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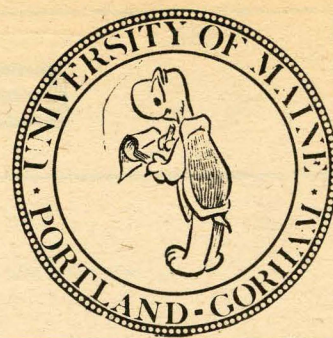
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THE OBSERVER

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 1



PoGo Student Seeks Voting Rights

Fred Conti is a junior at UMPG. He came here from Massachusetts and rented an apartment in Gorham. During the summer of 1971 he remained in Gorham and worked in Standish.

The Town of Gorham has apparently decided that as a student he is not an actual citizen. When he attempted to register to vote he was rebuffed - repeatedly. His case is important to all of us; the federal government has enfranchised eighteen year olds with the right to vote, by the 26th Amendment to the Constitution, and now the town attempts to strip of this right.

Fred first went to register in March of 71 after he had paid his poll tax in January. "I'll pay my poll tax and get my car on the road," since the state of Maine requires that he pay his poll tax in order to pay the excise tax in order to pay the registration fees. After he was refused once he went back in April to try again. The answer was still no. When asked why the clerk quoted from the Maine Election Laws Handbook to the effect that no students may be allowed to vote simply because they are students.

"So I contacted the Maine Civil Liber-

ties Union and they said, 'Good. We'll take your case.'

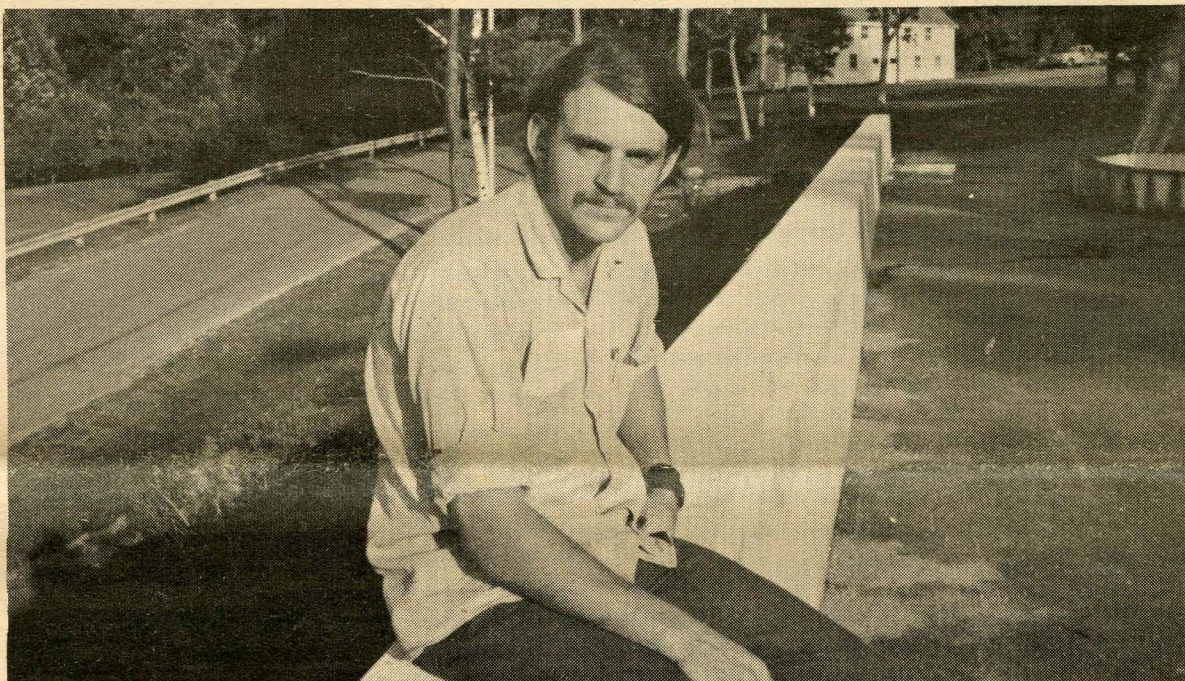
"Then I went before the Voter Registration Board in Gorham and we talked and chitchatted, but because of the law: you have to live six months in the state and three months in the community continuously to be eligible to vote, well, their interpretation of the law was that they don't consider your time as a student as being a resident.

"Their interpretation of the law is that simply because you're a student you can't

vote — period. We know now that that's illegal." This was in reference to recent federal court decisions in Michigan and California, in which the courts ruled in favor of students and decided that students can not be denied the right to vote simply because they are students.

Fred and the MCLU have taken the case to court but have not received a date for a hearing. In the meantime Fred went to speak to the Town Council to ask them to overrule the registration board. "I figured I should get a few votes anyway, but all

cont. on page 5



FRED CONTI

V. P. Bigelow Extends Greetings

And So Do We

On behalf of all members of the Student Affairs Division of the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham, I would like to welcome you to the first full year of UMPG's existence.

As a new member of the university's family, I have been continuously impressed, since arriving in June, with the diversity of interests and strength of talents with which this university is endowed. I hope these diversities, viewed as a multiplicity of assets, will become increasingly evident to you as you join the University of Maine, Portland-Gorham. Although the path to creation of a true university at UMPG will not always be easy, efforts you put forth during your tenure will help provide the legacy for a major university system in Southern Maine.

Those members of the student body and university staff who have worked in a separate campus system will benefit from incoming freshmen considering themselves as UMPG students rather than the natural tendency to speak of Portland or Gorham, or "we" or "they". Our perceptions of each other as members of the same single entity, UMPG, will grow with time and the challenges ahead will help provide a broader and stronger university program. The task is a complicated one, the complications varying with each of us. There are some members of our community whose major struggle will be to overcome the "we-they" sense of intracampus competition so keenly felt in the past; others in our student body will be challenged to alter other past perceptions and stereotypes.

As the year begins, I encourage each of you to make full use of the student affairs services available.

The Student Affairs Division has two overriding purposes. The first, to provide support services which will assist you in various ways while you are involved in your academic program. As you may know, these include counseling, testing, housing both on and off campus, financial aids, placement both part-time and career, and Health Services. Secondly, in addition to student services, the student affairs staff seeks to foster life experiences in decision making, leadership styles, and general personal development to provide students with a familiarity with the wide spectrum of values in our society. Examples of programs in this area include student activities, student union, volunteer services, and other cultural-social activities of a similar nature. Our offices are in Payson Smith on the Portland Campus and Corthell Hall in Gorham. We actually exist for you, and the philosophy of the Student Affairs Division revolves around the fact that considerable learning and many important experiences take place in a student's life both in and outside of the formal classroom. It is our desire to attempt to provide services, activities, and experiences which will complement, supplement, and support your academic program. This probably sounds a little stilted in writing although I do not mean it to be. Perhaps the only way you can really see it is to get involved, to come in and meet the staff, to find out what's happening.

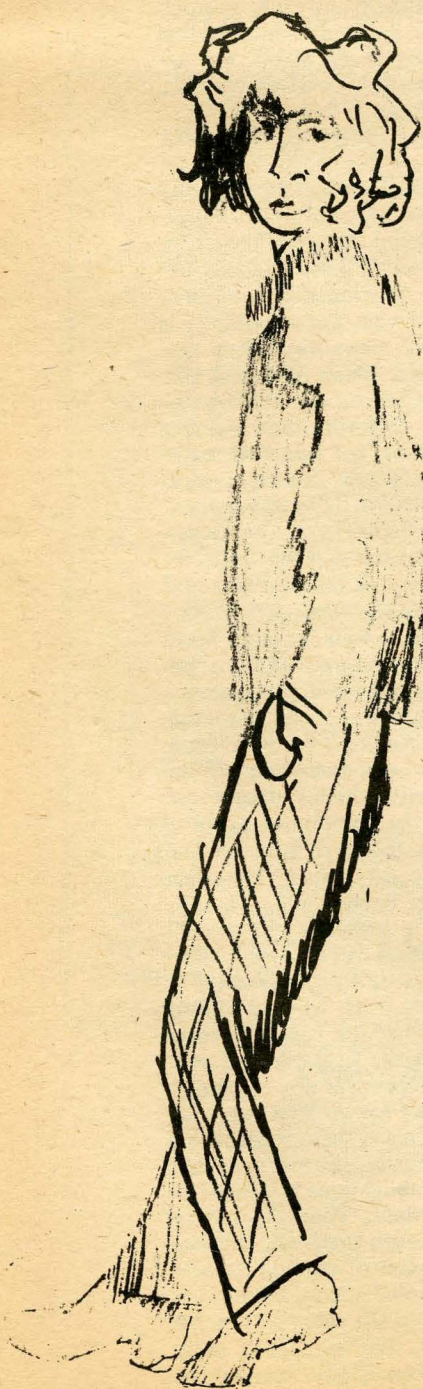
Welcome to UMPG, welcome back, and we look forward to your ideas on how we can better serve.

Sincerely,

Gordon S. Bigelow
Vice President for Student Affairs.

In it...

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- Landlords or Slumlords ... page 3



Editorials

Marijuana, Voting and Human Comedy

This being our first issue of the year, we are not going to fill you with "great" stories of political maneuvering or big time campus politics but of what most of the people who attend college do most of the time: Enjoy themselves and not become comically tied up in a pseudo-important role as a campus leader. We are not mocking the current crop of local student big-wigs, only the way they carry on like unless they go into action at the slightest breath of administrative rumor, the whole university will fall apart. We'll help you watch them later this year (they might challenge Gort as the funniest thing we carry!)

We are the OBSERVER editors: thus we set the policy of this paper. In the past we have been, out of sheer necessity, a house organ. This year we've been planning a whole new image for UMPG. Instead of just feeding you information on campus affairs we are reaching into the community, state, and national level to get news and features to keep you informed with whats going on in American university life. We plan to change our campus role to that of investigative reporting. We'll still carry the bits and pieces of information that tell you what is happening during this week, but we'll also hit you with things like investigations into the patterns of student life: Homosexuality, Hard drugs, Abortions, the young Married Students, as well as a host of other things. Also new this year will be a one page summary of state and national news of import to the university student (not just a POGO student but all students).

Of course we'll still carry Gort and Peter Cates' record reviews. We'll also expand our sports coverage into all happenings. The editorials won't dwell solely on local topics (have we ever?) and the columnists will be a welcome change from what you've seen in the past. We've got a Psychologist who'll give you honest answers to your serious questions—not a Dear Abbey thing but a real personal perspective of the problems people face every day.

What are we? Your campus newspaper. We won't try to tell you how to think; just give you a few things to base your opinions on.

As we said in the first paragraph of this editorial; we're not going to fill you with the usual crop of local political gossip. We just want you to "feel" like a member of our campus community before you get here. Enjoy yourselves while you're here, but don't forget the textbooks. Relax, and set a spell.



Did you know that the U. S. government has initiated a marijuana eradication program in fourteen Midwestern states?

During World War Two these wild hemp plants were prized for their fiber which was used in rope manufacture. Now the Justice Department is hoping to eradicate this second rate pot obtained from weed patches. Since selective control is so difficult, the National Wildlife Federation is concerned about the prospects of large-scale spraying of 2,4-D, a herbicide which would have wide-ranging effects on the environment. According to a Missouri Conservation Agent, "The stuff is all over the place. There's no way you could get rid of it without doing-in a heck of a lot of wildlife cover." And when the cover is eliminated so are thousands of song- and gamebirds and other wildlife.

Apparently the federal government feels its attacks on deviants includes birds as well their heads.

In recent months the town of Gorham has taken upon itself to deny Fred Conti of his right to vote. He seeks to vote in the town where he lives. An unreasonable request? No, it is a fundamental right.

Each student deserves to be a voting member of the town in which he lives. To deny him that fundamental right is to deny him Constitutional guarantees. To deny him that right because he is a student is to deny the humanness of each of us.

Rash talk of take-over serves only to alarm unnecessarily. Immediate revolution is not our goal; it is representation and responsibility. To settle for a status quo which relegates us to less than full citizenship is cowardice.

AS SEEN BY HOLT

by Alex Holt

"In the past several years, there has been a remarkable change in the degree of interest of students in the functioning of a college campus." A large number of professional educators and self-proclaimed experts have confidently asserted this view to Congress and the mass media, succeeding in convincing those people outside of higher education that the silent generation of the fifties has long since withered away. With the enormous amount of publicity given to the various activities of students in the preceding decade, it has become something of a moot question to ask whether the students are at all concerned with either their campus or with the social community problems of the outside world.

Unfortunately (depending upon one's view of student involvement), many of those confidently assume that there has been a radical change in the degree of student involvement have not spent a great deal of time on the average public university campus. In the northern part of New England it appears that students haven't changed very much at all: and according to reports from other East Coast universities, there is little change there either.

I shall give you a subjective report on student involvement within the university. First, let us assume that the university is an educational community with "community" being the key word. Although this word has been tossed around the academic circles for several decades, only recently have students begun to think of themselves as being a part of this community. The concept of what the community is brings to light many varying views—depending on one's status with the university. Many faculty at UMPG share a different perspective on the role of students in the governing of the university than is shared by the student body. Likewise, the fact that many students never take the time to vote in campus elections is shown to be the cause for the continued minority role students play in "governing" the university. Admittedly, there has been marked improvement in communications between the students and the administration in the last three years, and perhaps this represents an acknowledgement of the need for student participation in the determination of university policy. But with this increased participation must be a like degree of mature responsibility on the part of the students. It is exceedingly unethical for a student press, for example, to cast distortion and untruth upon any individuals with which it disagrees as it has the responsibility to the community to print the facts. It also has a responsibility to those students not in the student leadership category to keep them informed of what changes are being made. There is a lack of responsibility among students who assume that their elected student leaders will do everything—and that they can just sit back and expect results.

Speaking on a pragmatic level, I would like to remind those who read this that the next few years at UMPG for many represent the final years of protection from the strain of independent life. Although many will be away from home for the first extended period of time, this does not mean these students are entirely on their own. Eventually, the worry of jobs, financial security, and social obligations will be of utmost importance to every student. There is no better place than here and now to begin social and political awareness. If you make a habit of reading student newspapers, of making your voice known in your community, and of being an asset to the campus, you will have taken a giant first step. But remember, every student is a member of the university community.

The OBSERVER's letter policy stands as such: We will print all and any letters that are forwarded to the newspaper reserving the right to edit for length. If at any time the number of letters received concerning a certain topic exceed three in a given week, we reserve the right to take a selective sampling from all letters received on that topic. All letters must be signed but we will not include the authors name if so requested, nor will we reveal it to persons outside the Editorial Board. All materials received in confidence will remain as such.

May We Welcome You?

The OBSERVER welcomes you, the Class of 1975, to the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham. As a student newspaper, our role is to keep you informed of the occurrences on campus as well as providing you with information regarding whats going on off campus. We are here to inform and entertain you; to best service you we need your help.

It is hard for a campus newspaper, any campus newspaper, to survive without the support of the student body. This support comes in many ways: By working on the paper, by using the Student Activity fee to financially aid it, by merely reading it. Our

biggest problem of our "free" press is getting to feel the mood of the campus. If we are not going to bore you to death or insult you to frustration we need your input and help. We mean that we want your opinions and thoughts on the role of the campus newspaper. We want you to drop in the office or write us a letter telling us how you think we can best "cover" you.

The OBSERVER is not a private club or a political organization. We are a campus newspaper trying to find ways to best serve you.

Drop into the office and say hello.

THE OBSERVER
UMPG
Portland, Maine
Gorham, Maine

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Business Manager.....Scott Alloway
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Photography.....David Cedrone
Sports Editor.....Chickie Cusick

Landlords Stick Hard Deep

"She (the landlady) won't let us have girls up here."

"Why?"

"She says it doesn't look right. She's been living in Gorham most of her life and she says her neighbors will talk."

"How old are you?"

"Twenty two."

"How much rent do you pay?"

"\$125 a month."

"Why did your landlord kick you out of your apartment?"

"He said he knew all about the 'type' I am."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, I have long hair and he knows I have a girlfriend. He stormed into my room one day and between obscenities about me and her told me I was 'a goddamned hippie' and to 'get the hell out'."

"Did he have any real reason to do this?"

"No. Only a couple of times a few of my friends came over to read poetry at my place and he happened to walk in. We weren't making any noise, but I knew he was really suspicious."

"How do you mean?"

"He just walked in and out, sized us up, I guess, and left without speaking. We all had pretty long hair."

"Then what happened?"

"Just what I told you. The next day he came into the apartment and blew up."

"Did you keep the apartment clean?"

"Man, we kept it neat and clean. He was a nut on keeping it clean. He threatened to take our kitchen privileges away if we didn't."

"Kitchen privileges? Didn't you pay for the use

of the kitchen?"

"He said he would restrict our usage of it if we didn't keep it clean."

"How much did you pay a month?"

"There were five others with which I shared the place. He collected a total of \$360 a month. \$60 a piece."

It is time to say something about unfair treatment of university off-campus tenants. This writer decided to communicate these two examples after knowing of a dozen other disgustingly similar cases. Friends, this will be short and to the point. Many of the landlords here in Gorham are screwing the hell out of us. We are in a location where rents are at a premium. People know the demand for rooms and apartments is large so they take advantage of it. The result: often outrageous rent rates, dormitory rules on apartments and rooms (even with tenants over the legal age).

So you say "What can we do?" I know, there isn't much we can do about rent control or foolish boarding restrictions. But there is one thing we can do to prevent too many of our brothers and sisters from getting stuck with a real bummer of a boarding situation. We can communicate. If you know of a bad boarding situation, where students have been hassled or treated unfairly, come and tell us all about it at the student's publications office in the student lounge. We'll keep a record of these bad reports and mention of a Rent Reference Service will be made in the Observer. Students will be told when they can come in and check up on a perspective apartment or room. This can work. It can really help a lot of people. So please come in and talk.

FOR RENT: SPACIOUS AIRY APARTMENT, FULL KITCHEN FACILITIES, SUITABLE FOR UP TO 35 COLLEGE STUDENTS, ONLY 30 DOLLARS PER MONTH PER PERSON. SEE AT

FOR SALE: OLD FRAME HOUSE WITH HOLES IN WALLS, HOT ENOUGH TO FRY EGGS IN SUMMER, COLD ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE CHICKEN IN THE WINTER, BUY IT QUICK BEFORE IT FALLS DOWN. SEE AT 34561 FULL CIRCLE'

Will these be our first free classified ads?

Off-campus students don't have to be the forgotten folk in the university community. Off-campus students can plan and execute their own programs. Off-campus students can force the university to recognize and meet its responsibilities to them. We'd be glad to answer questions about our O.C.C. or try to help you organize your own. Write Off-Campus College, Box 7000, SUAB, Binghamton, NY 13901. Any information about new programs should also be sent to the Center for Educational Reform, 2115 S St., N.W., Washington, DC 20008, so it can be passed on to other campuses.

Women Residents Raise HU & Cry

Several young ladies on campus seem to believe that they have been getting a rotten deal from the administration with respect to housing. On several counts, these feelings of animosity can be justified.

The situation of Robie-Andrews is probably the most trying one. Girls who signed up for singles at last spring's pre-registration (which was designed itself to help students get a room of their choice) found that upon returning to campus this fall (and no sooner) that they were sharing space with not one, but two roommates.

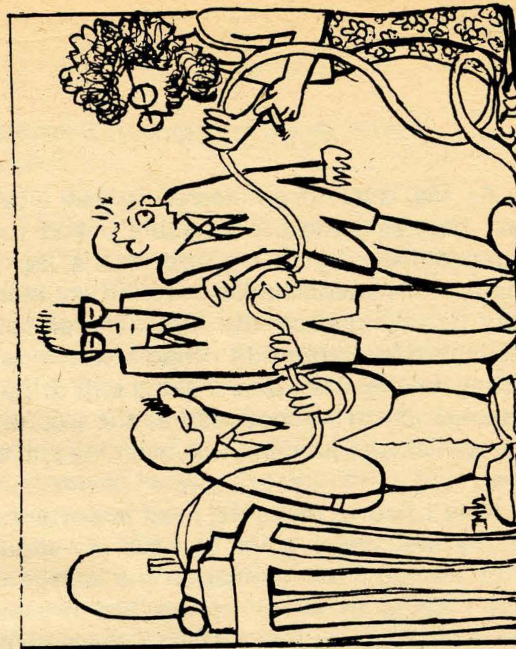
Across the way at Upton-Hastings, the problem is not quite as painful but even so, the people didn't exactly get what they paid for either. Rooms intended for two people were also tripled and no letters of warning were sent home. Also, night students that had been originally guaranteed a place to live, found themselves evicted.

Finally, at McLellan House, a building originally deemed as suitable living quarters for sixteen

people has now encompassed twenty-two students within its walls. One double room now holds four persons, another has three, and none of the occupants were compensated for even part of the money they paid. Also a den was converted into living quarters for two. The house originally was standardized for upperclassmen with its honor system, and this year, freshman students have been moved in. In addition, bathroom facilities leave much to be desired.

This rather enigmatic situation has found the house directors cooperative and understanding. However, the girls do not feel this is enough. They want and demand what they paid for and nothing less.

Fr. Joe Brannigan, Newman Chaplain for Portland-Gorham, has a new telephone, 772-4395, and a new apartment, 132 Park Avenue, across from Deering Oaks. Drop in. He will be in Gorham for the Saturday Mass at 4:30 P. M. in Hastings formal Lounge and at other times to be announced.



cont. from page 1

six of them voted me down. They want a court case. But what they've overlooked are the inconsistencies."

Fred is a Mass. resident under Maine law, but does not want to register there. He has signed an affidavit stating that he intends to work in this area after graduation; he has even cut his hair "to impress the old bastards."

"But that makes no difference whether you plan on staying here or not. That's none of their business. If you've been here the required time by law, that's it. You should be allowed to vote here."

A Maine Sunday Telegram article quoted some government official as saying that if an out of state married a local girl then he might be registered: thus inferring that that was a condition of residency.

We asked Fred if he had any plans to marry a Gorham girl. He just laughed.

Gorilla Wanted

Captain W.H. Climo and Captain M.H. Collier of the Marine Officer Selection Office for the New England area are scheduled to visit the University of Maine Gorham Campus Student Lounge on September 17 to discuss the officer programs of the U.S. Marine Corps; the Platoon Leaders class, and the Officer Candidate course.

The Platoon Leaders Class is available to the college undergraduate in ground and aviation fields. Members of the PLC Program are commissioned as Marine Second Lieutenants upon graduation. Law and graduate school deferments are available to qualified PLC's. The Officer Candidate course is designed for college seniors and graduates with a baccalaureate or higher degree. Guarantees in data processing, supply, motor transport, engineering and aviation are available, before enlistment, to qualified applicants. Upon successful completion of the Officer Candidate course, candidates are commissioned as Marine Second Lieutenants.

For further information, contact the Marine Officer Selection Office, 575 Technology Square-7th floor, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 (Tel. 223-2913/2914).

ABORTION ? QUESTIONS ?

For Information and Referral Assistance Call

ABORTION INFORMATION CENTER, INC.

(201) 868-3745
868-3746

9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Monday to Saturday

Cathy Monahan Rambles Over Then, Now & When

"I was overly active in student activities in college" admits the newest member of the Student Affairs office, Kathy Monahan. The brown-haired 24 year old Iowan was very frank with us in our first informal interview-discussion last month.

"I really don't know that much about the place (UMPG) ; so I might not be able to answer all your questions."

A graduate of the University of Iowa with a B. A. in psychology, Kathy spent her junior and senior summers in the Lower East Side of New York working with blacks and Puerto Ricans on the problem of Venereal disease and the education of the community about V.D. In Iowa, she was heavily involved in administrative, faculty, and student work, dorm life, sorority groups and (she grinned at this) the Young Republicans.. (which has since changed.) She also did volunteer work with minority groups in Chicago, and in her senior year taught a class dealing with Racial Communication...personal issues of how the races can communicate.

OBSERVER: Why did you come to Maine?

Kathy: While I was attending the University of Iowa I was sent to Bethel, Maine, for the National Training Institute Lab for 2 weeks, and I really enjoyed being in Maine. This last fall I decided I really wanted to be on the East Coast so I first went to Boston. But I found that I didn't want to live in the big city. It was just not my thing...So I came to visit a friend and after being here about four or five days decided here was the place that I really wanted to be. I came up in January looking for a job (It was bad timing on my part, I later discovered) with the university. I had to settle for a job with Maine National Bank. This past summer I got into the Upward Bound program here and enjoyed it very much.

OBSERVER: As Co-ordinator of Student Activities, just what are you going to Co-ordinate?

Kathy: That's a good question right now. Basically, it's set up so that student organizations that exist now I will work with. I also have to find out what other interests the students on the campus have and how to best facilitate them. I will work primarily with the Gorham campus although I will be involved with both campuses. There's got to be some combining of organizations. But basically I will be working at Gorham.

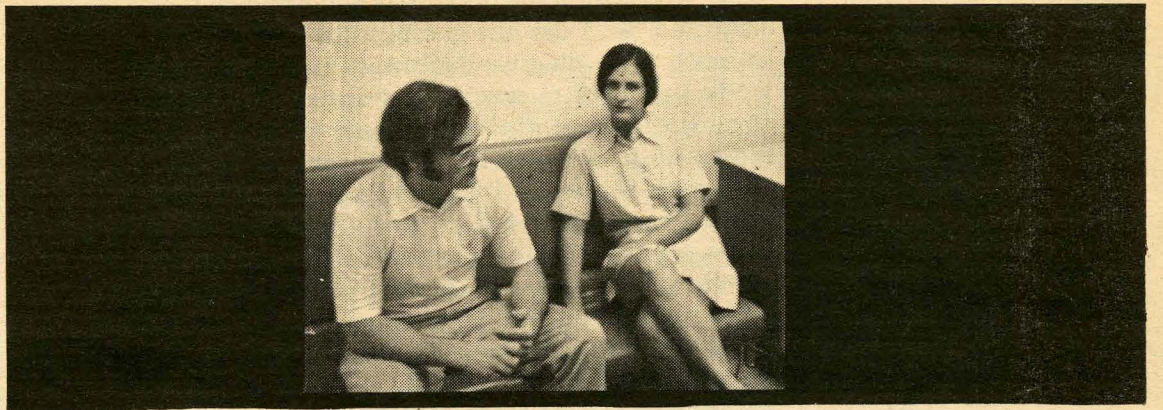
OBSERVER: How do you plan to get the students involved, seeing that past efforts on both campuses have met little success?

Kathy: At this point my only hope is the fact that I will be down in the Gorham student lounge area. I hope that it will help as far as student contact goes. Hopefully persons that are known as student leaders will work with me to help me contact other students so to help me find out what's going on. In this way I also hope to tap the dormitory resources.

There are a lot of issues to be resolved this fall: Co-ordinated student government and all. I realize that there has been some disenchantment with the merger but at this point remember, I'm operating only on here-say.

I feel like I need a certain amount of time to be able to judge the situation myself. I can't, at this time, say that I have definite plans for the campus...There are some things on the calendar regarding activities.

One idea circulating is to set up a Union



"The most valuable aspect of student activities is that students learn by trying to do it themselves..."

Board to program the student lounge. There are a lot of things that could have been done there (in the lounge) that haven't been done. This was due to confusion as to whose job it was. I'd like to see a student group run it.

OBSERVER: Do you think the administrators' role is one of a guiding force or hand or one of a consultant? That is, should the administrator be one to lead the students or one to help the students make the decisions?

Kathy: Basically, I think it should be one of a consultant. It depends on the student body. I get a sense here from students that they really haven't gotten into these things and that they'd really like to. I hope we can do this.

OBSERVER: Do you think there is a point in student affairs when the administrator should intervene? For example, the joint senates of UMPG blundered away \$10,000 last year. Should an administrator have stepped in and acted as a policeman or were they right in letting the students do as the senates saw fit? Should the administrators have said stop?

Kathy: I'm not sure I would have said stop. I would have tried to point out what they were doing. You're asking for a general reaction; I'm not sure what I'd do if I thought something was totally unwise. I think I would point out what had happened in the past and remind them that "this is too much of a risk." I would hope to resolve it then. The most valuable aspect of student activities is that students learn by trying to do it themselves.

OBSERVER: Do you believe in individual contact activity rather than the large concert format?

Kathy: I personally appreciate the smaller activity. However, if there is a group of people who feel that there's a call for the big concert it should be done. Monies will hopefully come from the Student Affairs office. It will be a picky area--money. As we all know, there's not a tremendous (Kathy sings this out) amount of funds around. (Both of us laugh at this) It's going to be a picky area.

In getting to know people, I see particularly the newspaper as being vital to the students. I'm not sure if you're asking whether I would want to be involved in it or whether I would be interfering or what, but I would like to get some contact there. I'm interested in it. That is not an area I have a lot of background in.

I also hope to have some contact with the individual students. That basically where I'm headed...I'd like to get into college counseling--groups, organizations, and students. I hope that it will evolve because of my being in the student lounge.

OBSERVER: Should the campus make stronger efforts to get minority groups on campus--blacks, Indians, French-Canadians, the Rural Poor--through

"I envision the college experience as a broadening of all senses..."

scholarship aid? Less than 1% of UMPG is of minority descent.

Kathy: Yes, I do feel strongly on this. I envision college and the college experience as a broadening of all senses--not totally academic, not totally social; very much cultural. From my experience I feel I've gained a lot from contact with other cultures. What I've seen here is that UMPG is kind of isolated and there could be a lot of learning if these minorities were brought in.

I definitely feel that students should get away from campus at some point and be involved in a real life experience. I feel that college is a fantastic environment.

I spent some time in New York and was sponsored by the university through work study. Not all people have the desire to work in a ghetto or with minority groups. I don't think that it should be forced on them. If they would like the opportunity it is an advantage for them. That avenue is fantastic. It's valuable for the student as he can test it out himself.

OBSERVER: Right now there are no real counseling services available for the kids "in trouble" with themselves. Are you planning one for the future?

Kathy: Most definitely. I was really quite surprised to find nothing like that on the Gorham campus. It is in the discussion stage now as to what to do in this area with what little money we have.

Many campuses are now starting crisis centers where kids can walk in, talk, help--I find this extremely exciting. As nearly as I can find out all the resources are in the Portland area... Drug rescue, Ingraham volunteers. Kathy Hohnacki will be working with the volunteer agencies. I still don't know how much interest there is here for a crisis center. We could use one.

Kathy closed our conversation by commenting on the youth in the Student Affairs Office at UMPG.

"It's a young group--and able to change. I've enjoyed my initial contact."

Show Gary Merrill

How To

Buy A

Lighthouse

Rip-Off's Unbelievable — But True

Tuition raise from one hundred to four hundred fifty dollars --- UNBELIEVABLE!

You care to know why? Well, the following is the almost exact story of the developemments which gave us our big bill. The legislature has found higher education not being the universally popular expenditure it used to be.

But pay raises for employees (voting employees) will be loved.

But it is expensive to spend all that tax money;

and UN-popular. "Who can we get?" say the little legislative voices.

"Who is now unpopular?" (This is a technoque known to all legislators: Q and Q time)

"Not the highways..."

"Not the environment..."

"Not the trade schools..."

"THE UNIVERSITY...!!"

"AHHHHhhhh..."

The word went down to the Big Board:

"Now listen, trustees. It's time you started act-

ing like responsible bureaucrats and got someone..."

"Who is now unpopular?"

Not the faculty...

Not the administration...

Not the classified employees; they already got theirs. And the answer was obvious.

We can't get along without those people. The easiest people to get are the students!! We can get along without THEM...

And thus spake the 13 (really 7) wise owls.

SOCCER

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| Sept. 25 | at Lyndon State College |
| 28 | at Eastern Nazarene College |
| Oct. 2 | Castleton State College |
| 5 | at Salem State College |
| 9 | Plymouth State College |
| 13 | UM Farmington |
| 16 | Fitchburg State College |
| 19 | at Keene State College |
| 23 | Johnson State College |
| 26 | at Nasson College |
| 30 | at Husson College |
| Nov. 3 | St. Francis College |
| 6 | NESCAC Playoffs |
| 12-13 | NAIA District 32 Playoffs |

Coach: Joey Bouchard

Trainer: Nate Caliendo

Home Games: Gorham Campus

Weekdays: 3:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 2:00 p.m.

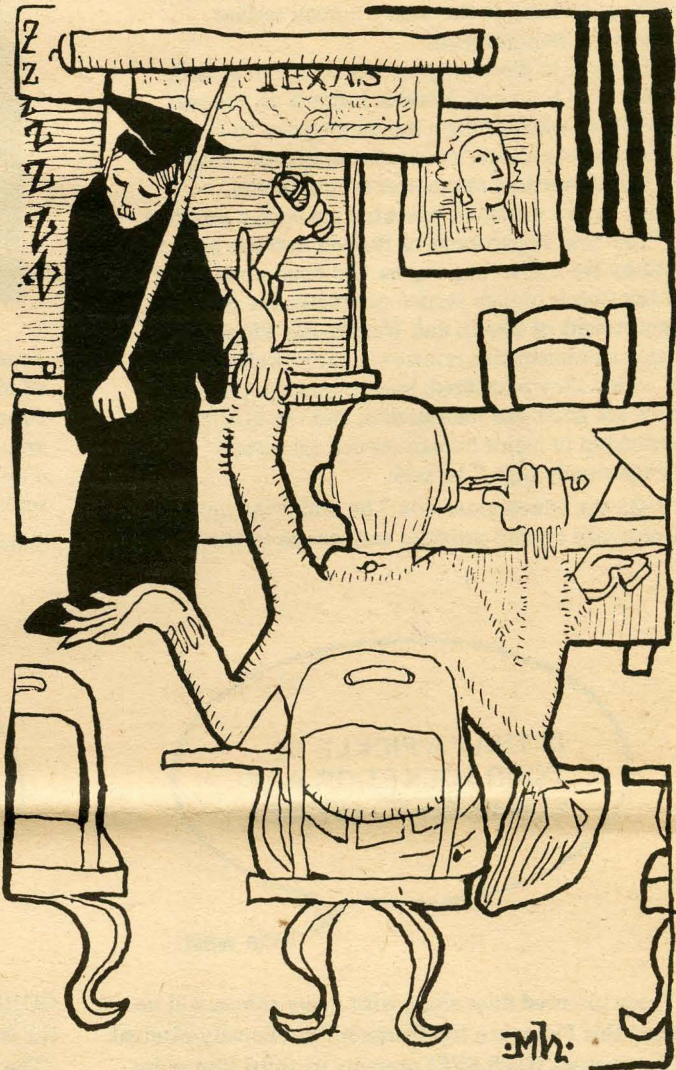
CROSS COUNTRY

| | |
|----------|---|
| Sept. 25 | at Colby College and Middlebury College |
| Oct. 2 | Keene State College, St. Francis College, and SMVTI |
| 6 | at St. Francis College and Gordon College |
| 9 | at Plymouth State College Invitational |
| 12 | Boston State College |
| 16 | at Boston State College Invitational |
| 19 | at Salem State College |
| 23 | UMPG Invitational |
| 26 | at Nasson College |
| Nov. 6 | NESCAC Championship at Keene State College |
| 8 | NEIAAA at Boston |
| 10 | NAIA at Gordon College |

Coach: Don Thomas

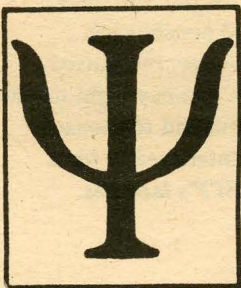
Home meets: 4:00 p.m. Weekdays

1:00 p.m. Saturdays



Letters To A Psychologist

By JOHN M. KENNEDY,
B.A., M.A., A.G.P.A.



"You are not alone." This is a magical phrase that can bring reassurance to most people that have problems because the tensions that are produced by a problem or problems usually involve the feeling that the problem is exclusively personal.

The first and most important stage is to persuade a person with a problem that others have had the same problem and that it can be solved and that it has been solved by others in the past.

This column will deal with personal-type problems including DRAFT STATUS, EDUCATION PLANS, ADJUSTMENT DIFFICULTIES, and personal and employment problems of those in their late teens and twenties.

A column of this nature allows those with problems to express themselves and through this verbalization gain a perspective and thus an understanding of the problem as well as the knowledge that "You are not alone".

Please address all letters to THE OBSERVER Letters to a Psychologist, Executive Editor C/O UMPG. If a personal reply is desired please inclose a self-addressed envelope stamped. The OBSERVER reserves the right to condense and change any letters for publication purposes. No names nor addresses will be used and complete anonymity will be maintained.

P LATTER ERSPECTIVE

Jimmy Webb---And So: On---Reprise, RS-6448...\$4.79

This man is already familiar to most people as the composer of several super hits ("By the Time I Get to Phoenix," "Wichita Lineman," and "MacArthur Park") but not so well known is the fact that he is a superb performer of his own material and that he has recorded one superb album (Words & Music) of which my copy has become one of the most well worn albums I own.

His latest release is a marvel of studio technology. His very contemporary, impressionistic material has the pungent thrust of rock, the poetic lyricism of the folk song, and the Broadway show tune. These elements are blended into a very neo-classical synthesis of the American experience, all which is aided immeasurably by his astute understanding of the recording media. "All Night Show" evokes the sights and sounds of the city in the wee small hours--the blondes in the cheap bars, the cops on their routine night rounds, restless young men looking for excitement, neon lights, frivolous gaieties, nightclubs, and fast talking DJ's on the noisy car radios. "High Pockets" is my favorite; a beautifully crafted love song unerring in its directness and simplicity and totally bereft of the sentimental slop characteristic of songs of this variety. The superb strings of Sid Sharp provide a lush, sumptuous, but never glossy backdrop for Webb's unique, rythmically daredevilish arrangements.

Peter Cates-9/3, 71

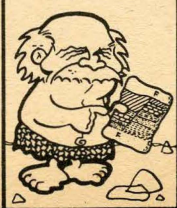
gort

Gort, I have discovered a phenomenon: a fracture in the earth's crust... 600 MILES LONG!!

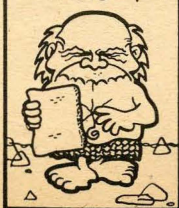
So?



If my calculations are correct, a great segment of this continent will one day sink into the ocean!



The area in peril, called California, is unfortunately perfect for developing a future megalopolis.



Imagine it! MILLIONS... EVEN BILLIONS OF HUMANS, all doing their thing... Then, the population suddenly decimated!



This strata break... what do you call it?



I call it the San Andreas Fault.



I'd call it the San Andreas Virtue.



S. P. Simonds Assumes Human Services Devt Leadership

Stephen P. Simonds, commissioner of the Community Services Administration in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the past two years, has been assigned to direct a center for the development of human services at the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham.

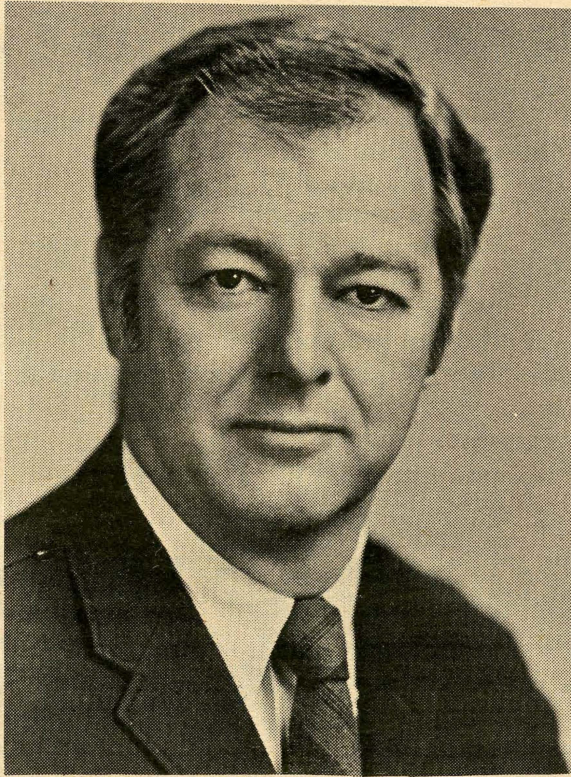
Dr. Louis J. P. Calisti, president of UMPG, said that Simonds assignment by HEW was made possible through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act and that he would be with the University for at least two years.

While here, Dr. Calisti said, Simonds would coordinate the development and testing of programs dealing with the integration of social service delivery systems, and assist both the University and the state in relating all levels of Maine's educational systems to the state's human service manpower requirements.

Simonds, in discussing his new assignment said, "There has been considerable interest on the part of HEW in establishing a model program to systematically relate a state's educational system with its human services manpower requirements. Maine has an excellent potential for such a program.

"The new Department of Human Services authorized by the 105th Legislature will encompass most of the state's human service programs; the State Department of Health and Welfare has adopted major administrative reforms in social welfare, many of which they pioneered; state interagency relationships are good and manageable; and the quality of leadership in major human service agencies is exceptionally high," he said.

"On the educational side," he said, "the unified University system provides easy access to the re-



sources of all its campuses and, under the guidance of Margaret Payson Professor of Social welfare, John M. Romanyshyn, the university has pioneered an undergraduate curriculum that has already lead a number of outstanding students into the human services field."

Simonds said that human services is one of the

fastest growing enterprises in the nation and it includes such services as child welfare, vocational rehabilitation, youth services, probation and parole, services for the aged, mental health and mental retardation, child development and anti-poverty programs.

Appointed commissioner of the Assistance Payments Administration in the Social and Rehabilitation Service of HEW in 1968, Simonds was named commissioner of the Community Services Administration in 1969. He was director of the Maine Bureau of Social Welfare from 1960-1968, where he was in charge of programs such as public assistance, medical assistance, child welfare, community work and training, services to the blind, and other special services. Before coming to Maine he was field supervisor for the Connecticut Department of Public Welfare and served for several years with the New Hampshire Department of Public Welfare.

He received his bachelors degree from the University of New Hampshire and his masters degree from the University of Chicago. He was a Fulbright scholar and studied at the University of Bristol in England from 1957-1958.

Born in Franconia, New Hampshire, Simonds is married to the former Judith Cole of Kennebunk, Maine.

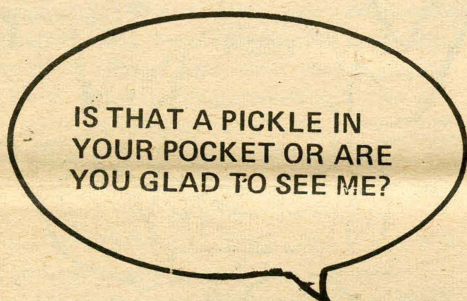
Try-outs Begin

Women's Soccer

An enthusiastic turn-out of women was on hand for the first hockey practice on the Gorham campus wednesday. Returning from last year's varsity varsity are Chickie Cusick, inner; Debbie Shaw, goalie; Debbie Selleck, center forward; halfback Karen Lutz, fullback Donna Crichton, wing Linda Trask and halfback Pat Metcalf. Players from the junior varsity team competing for varsity berths are Carla Grgory, Hope Robinson, Jean Irish, and Kathie Greene. Newcomers include freshmen Kathy Kimball, Barbara Frost, Mary Patreson, Kathy Catir, Susanne Brown, Laurie Devine, and sophomore Anne Underwood. The varsity will play a nine game schedule beginning with a home contest against UMFarmington on September 23. Mrs. Paula Hodgdon is the coach.

Women's Tennis

Twelve women are trying out for the women's tennis team, coached by Miss Patricia Raybould. Hoping to make the team are veterans Jan Devine, Nancy Halleck, Debbie LaForme, Janrt saurman, Liz Kelley, and Kathy Downing. Five women are trying out for the first time and include Gale Marshall, Mary Fuller, Diane Palanza, Sue Philbrick, and Louise Guy. The team will play eight matches against Maine teams and expects to compete in the annual Maine Intercollegiate State Tournament at Colby College in October.



mae west

These pictured lines along with many others will be heard this Fall when the Gorham Film Society-Student Film Festival (GFS-SFF) presents its third film series Monday nights will be the time to see, among others, Paul Newman, Elvis Presley, Annette Funicello, Marlon Brando, and The Marx Brothers on the big screen in Bailey Auditorium. An added attraction to the series this year will be the screening of the original FLASH



flash gordon

GORDON serial, one chapter will be shown along with the feature length film each week for thirteen weeks.

The admission to all of this is \$.50 per showing. The GFS-SFF is a non-profit, University recognized organization. The money from the Monday night movies is used to buy filmmaking equipment and to sponsor student filmmakers. Any student interested in films and filmmaking may use the GFS-SFF's facilities.

OBSERVER

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School is not a Gay Place to Be

As the clock drew nearer to ten o'clock, my fear became almost unbearable. I had long since stopped listening to my professor's lecture even though the material he was covering would undoubtedly be included on the final. The anxiety I was feeling made attention impossible. I remember sitting in the classroom shaking and dripping wet. I stared almost hypnotically at the second hand of the wall clock—suddenly the bell rang and class was over.

Now I had to make the most important decision of my life. Was I going to keep my appointment with the unknown woman in the college union or was I going to stand her up and retreat to the security of my apartment? As I made up my mind to carry through with the appointment, I found myself walking out of the room ignoring my classmates, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible. I was worried that someone would ask where I was going.

I approached the union, trying to regain my composure. I knew that I couldn't face anyone in the condition I was in, and if I continued to look so agitated, everyone would stare at me once I entered the building. I took a deep breath and went inside. Then I looked all over the cafeteria for the woman with the green blouse and blue pants. This was the outfit she had told me she would wear when I talked to her over the phone four hours earlier.

Suddenly I saw her—she saw me at the same time and got out of her seat to greet me. She took my hand and brought me over to her table.

"You must be Warren," she said. "My name is Lee."

She was not at all as I had envisioned her. She had a kind, friendly face and long sensitive fingers. She spoke with an air of understanding which allowed me to relax in her presence. I wished, however, that we were alone somewhere instead of there in the cafeteria where at any time an acquaintance might come in and find out the nature of our meeting.

"Lee," I said, "I called you because..." At this point I became extremely tense and could no longer continue.

"I know of your reasons for wanting to talk to me," she replied after almost an entire minute of silence. "I've found that many people are in your situation and are in such desperation that they don't know where to turn. Please try to continue where you left off a minute ago. It would really be helpful to you if you could get out the words that are so disturbing to you."

"Lee, I called you because...because I think I... I... I am a ho...a homosexual." At that moment I placed my head in my hands and wanted to flee as fast as I could. After a minute or so she took my hand, and as she did, I could see her own eyes swelling with tears. It seemed that she knew the torment and self-hatred which I was feeling because of the simple fact that she had gone through the same feelings herself.

I suppose that I have had "homosexual" feelings since I was seven or eight years old, but since that time until just a very few months ago I was afraid to admit it to anyone, including myself. This meeting with the GLF coordinator on my college campus was such a threatening thing to me because, like most of society, school is not a very "gay" place to be. For the homosexual in today's educational institutions, life is extremely oppressive, lonely and alienating.

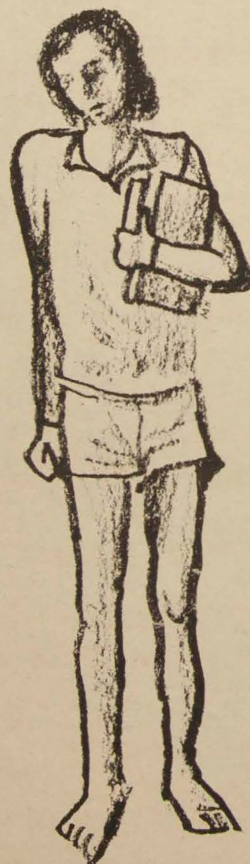
The chain of sexual oppression imposed by my schooling started the very first day I entered kindergarten. As my mother dropped me off and kissed me good-bye, I felt very alone and began to cry. The teacher walked up and said in a rough voice: "Don't cry. Only sissies and little girls cry." In retrospect I realize that she was telling me to deny my feelings in order to fit a preconceived notion of masculinity, a norm I didn't fit and couldn't have fit if I had wanted to. Even back in kindergarten, boys were channelled in certain activities such as athletics while girls were channelled along the lines of housekeeping "skills" such as cooking and cleaning up the classroom. This channelling seemed to grow more intense in each consecutive level of grade school.

In the fifth and sixth grades I was one of only five boys in the school chorus, which included almost 50 girls. The reason that more boys were not included in the chorus is not because girls generally have better voices than boys of elementary school age. The determining factor was one of social pressure. I and the other four boys in the chorus were referred to by our peers as "the chorus girls," while the girls who "made it" into the chorus were well respected and envied by the other girls of the school.

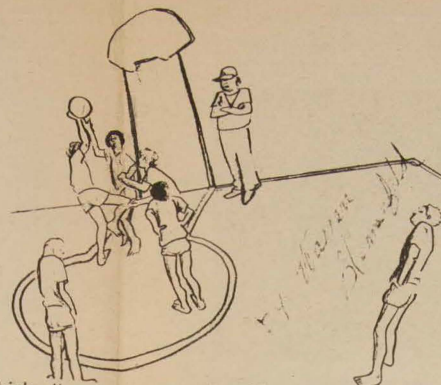
As I was experiencing this humiliation, I repeatedly wondered why it was that kickball was considered to be more "manly" than singing. Why was it that, in order for me to be accepted by my peers, I would first have to show my physical prowess on the athletic field?

The attitudes which my classmates developed were formulated within the family unit, but they were reinforced in the school setting. It was usually the girls who were encouraged by their teachers to take advantage of the field trips to the opera each semester, while the boys were pushed to attend a local big league baseball game. It was the girls who were allowed to help the teacher mix the paints for art period while the boys were permitted to sometimes leave for recess early to get the balls out of the equipment rooms. These instances may appear to be quite minor means of tracking a student according to sex, but they set the stage for the most oppressive three years of my life—the years of junior high school.

During this period I began to develop physically and became more aware of my own body. I began to have definite sexual feelings for other members of my own sex. These were feelings which I didn't exactly understand, although they seemed very real. Once I had a strong sexual attraction for a boy friend of mine. When I told him that I wanted to embrace him, he looked at me in the strangest way and called me a "faggot." By that time in my life I knew what the term meant. I was told that "faggots" are homosexuals who are sick and who must go to a psychiatrist in order to be "normal."



Part II



In junior high, "normal" was defined by the teachers of our sex education class—the physical education staff. During the course, homosexuality was discussed when we were on the topic of "sexual deviates." If nothing else, this course taught me to keep my homosexual feelings well hidden. Whenever any of my friends told homosexual jokes, I was always the one who laughed the loudest, so no one would discover where I was really at.

During these years, I hated to go to any school dances. It was not that I didn't like to dance, but rather that I wanted to dance with the other boys. Once I had a fantasy of dancing with a boy friend of mine in the privacy of my own room—how beautiful and free it was to finally carry out my desires.

Unfortunately, this was only a fantasy, a brief vision instead of an actual occurrence. Subsequently, I rarely attended any of the dances because they were extremely threatening to me. If I were discovered, I not only wouldn't have been able to face my friends and relatives, but I thought that I would have to be transferred to another school so I wouldn't "disturb the educational environment" of my school. Recently this was what happened when a 13-year old told one of his junior high school teachers he was a homosexual. The principal immediately went to talk with his parents and stated that their son would not be allowed back to school unless he was admitted to a qualified psychologist for the purpose of altering his sexual preference. In this instance the parents accepted their son's feelings and were not intimidated by the school. They threatened that if their son was not admitted back to the school immediately they would file suit through the American Civil Liberties Union. Under this threat the boy was readmitted due to the lack of legal grounds for his dismissal.

In this type of case, in most states the law may be on our side, but social attitudes are difficult if not impossible to legislate. I have not kept up with this particular case since the boy has been back in school, but I do not doubt that he has felt some social stigma for his decision to be open about his homosexuality (as I would have, if I had been secure enough in my junior high school years to be open).

Junior high school sufficiently prepared me for my eventual high school experiences, teaching me

never to question the oppressive conditioning I was subjected to. I did not question the military drills in tenth grade physical education class; in eleventh grade I did not question the transfer of a fellow classmate to a continuation school for alleged homosexual tendencies; and I did not question the statement of my twelfth grade English teacher that "even though Andre Gide was a homosexual he was a good author in spite of it." I felt too threatened to speak out. I tried, instead, to play the games social pressure dictated to me. I went steady with a girl in my history class when I was a senior mainly because all of my friends were going steady and I felt isolated for not having a girlfriend myself.

My own self-hatred was especially great in high school because I knew I was a homosexual but did not know how to handle it. There was no one to whom I could turn for help. Once in my health class when the subject came up, we talked about the technique of shock treatment for homosexuals to alter their "sexual desires." Being in such a desperate state, I even considered submitting myself to such treatment but, fortunately, never went through with it.

I graduated from high school with the hope that college life would somehow be different. I hoped that people would be more open-minded and readily open to change. To a great extent, this was true. In college, for the first time I joined with other people to demonstrate our open opposition to the war in Vietnam; now I felt the joy of joining with my Black and Chicano sisters in our common struggle against housing discrimination around our campus by the campus slumlords; now I was able to voice my disgust at the state of our ecology by helping to plan workshops during specified ecology teach-ins held around my campus.

All of these activities gave me a greater sense of worth, in that now I felt freer to act out many of my previously held ideals, but still something was missing. There remained within me a great void from which I could not escape. I knew the time was drawing near for me to make a decision of either coming out with my homosexuality to myself and to others, or else remaining in my suppressed state as I had done ever since I could remember. I continually asked myself why there were no openly Gay individuals or gay organizations on my campus.

Then one day in my campus newspaper I saw the headline in big bold letters: "Gay Liberation Front Denied Campus Recognition." The article went on to say that the chancellor of the California State College system had denied recognition of the Campus Chapter of Gay Liberation Front on the premises that:

1. "...the effect of recognition by the college of Gay Liberation Front could conceivably be to endorse, or to promote homosexual behavior, to attract homosexuals to the campus, and to expose minors to homosexual advocacy and practices, and
2. "...belief that the proposed Front created too great a risk for students—a risk which

might lead students to engage in illegal homosexual behavior."

After my initial disgust and outrage for such absurd reasoning, I finally chose to "come out of my closet." I soon joined an encounter group in the college counseling center which allowed me to gain the support I needed to start to handle my homosexuality in a constructive way. Soon I gained the courage I needed to get in touch with the coordinator of the local Gay Liberation Front chapter, as described in the beginning of this article. Since that time I have been involved heavily in gay politics and gay sensitivity groups.

The void is finally being filled because now I have found people who are proud of their homosexuality—people who are no longer going to put up with the oppressive conditions which our society imposes on us every day of our lives. People are now fighting in the courts to get chapters of Gay Liberation Front reinstated on campuses. A precedent case was recently decided in our favor by the Superior Court of Sacramento County, California. In this case, the GLF, represented by the Associated Students of Sacramento State College, won a suit against the President of Sacramento State College and the trustees of the California State College System which forced the state college to recognize GLF as a student organization. A court upheld the Associated Students' contention that:

To justify suppression of free speech there must be reasonable grounds to fear that serious evil will result if free speech is practiced. There must be reasonable ground to believe that the danger apprehended is imminent.

Using this precedent, other homosexual groups which have been denied recognition are now waging court battles throughout the nation. Also many groups have not had as much trouble as we have had for there are over 150 campus homosexual groups throughout the United States. The purpose, as stated in one group's constitution, is

...to further self-understanding among the members, to promote in the community better understanding of homosexuality, and to facilitate a strengthening of social ties between homosexuals and heterosexuals...to provide... members with legal, medical and psychological counseling and services as is necessary and proper.

To be a homosexual in the educational institutions of this country is still extremely difficult even though conditions may appear to be changing for the better. I was able to begin the long process of personal liberation in spite of my teachers and the educational institutions.

I realize that I can talk only of oppression from the viewpoint of a homosexual man, but the system which oppresses me also oppresses women, both gay and straight, Black people, Chicanos, Native Americans and others. The fact which must be made known is that we are tired of waiting for change; we are tired of hiding our feelings and we are rising up with pride, love and solidarity.



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